

REMARKS

By the present amendment the applicants have amended independent claim 16 for the purpose of more clearly distinguishing the present invention from cited EP 1117030, to Jae-Sung.

From the input/output selector and encoder/decoder as recited in amended claim 16, it is clear that the optical data storage drive device according to the present invention processes a video signal in addition to processing an audio signal. However, the CD-ROM in paragraph 0025 of Jae-Sung only functions to process the audio signal and cannot encode/decode the video signal. Furthermore, paragraph 0024 of Jae-Sung discloses that "The disc player 2 further includes a decoder via a data bus for processing data of an MPEG format. That is, the decoder is adapted to decode MPEG data from the CPU 4 of the computer.... " Accordingly, the disc player 2 of Jae-Sung cannot be operated independently of an individual playing an MPEG format. On the other hand, the video/audio encoder/decoder of the present invention is controlled by a microprocessor 3 (as shown in Fig. 1 of the present application) independently provided in the optical data storage drive device, and not controlled by the CPU of the personal computer. Therefore, whether the personal computer is power-on or power-off, both video data and MPEG format can be

played in the optical data storage drive device of the present invention.

The Examiner maintains that the function of the microprocessor controlling the release/resume operation of the bus switch can be deduced from the disclosure in paragraph 0045 of Jae-Sung based on the fact that "the switch is being equated to the control circuit 38". However, a study of the specification and Figs. 2-3 of Jae-Sung shows that there is no relevance between the control circuit 38 of Jae-Sung and the microcomputer 22. Paragraph 0045 of Jae-Sung also discloses that "A detection port 37 is connected to the multimedia device to check voltage ...when the multimedia device is not in operation and make a power control terminal 39 active in accordance with the checked result." At this time, a control circuit 38 functions to block the supply of power from the adapter 36, thereby causing all components in the computer to be supplied with power from the main power supply 35. This disclosure shows that the control circuit 38 is controlled by the power control terminal 39 and not the microcomputer 22 in accordance with the checked result of the detection port 37. Therefore, the bus switch controlled by the microprocessor according to the present invention is not equivalent to the control circuit 38 of Jae-Sung.

Furthermore, the optical storage device of claim 16 stores the decoded video/audio signal and data from the microprocessor through the bus switch. However, Figs. 1-2 and paragraphs 0019 and 0034 of Jae-Sung do not teach that the disc player 2 can be used to store the data from the microcomputer 22.

Provided that the bus switch of the present invention is equated to the control circuit 38 of Jae-Sung as held by the Examiner, the disc player 2 of Jae-Sung can not store the data from the microcomputer 22 through the control circuit 38 as shown in Fig.3. Therefore, the relationship among the microprocessor, bus switch and the optical storage device as recited in Claim 16 of the present invention cannot be deduced from the assemblage relationship among the microcomputer 22, the control circuit 38 and the disc player 2 of Jae-Sung.

The Examiner also maintains that the microprocessor recited in claim 16 of the present application is the microcomputer as disclosed in paragraphs 0034 and 0048 of Jae-Sung. However, with reference to paragraphs 0034 and 0048 and Figs. 1-2 of Jae-Sung, the microcomputer 22 is provided in the audio signal amplification circuitry 8. The microcomputer 22 functions only to process audio and radio signals and BISO data of the personal computer cannot be pre-stored or read/written, and cannot control the release/resume operation of the bus switch.

According to amended claim 16, "a status display displayed the operation status of said memory card reader, said optical data storage device and a BIOS of the personal computer and controlled by a display controller connected to said microprocessor." Thus, the status display of the present invention is further distinguishable from the display 28 as described in paragraph 0048 of Jae-Sung. More specifically, the display of Jae-Sung is incapable of displaying the operation status of the BIOS of the personal computer and can only display some audio information (such as SRS or FM).

Since the power-on detector as recited in claim 16 is used to detect the computer host reset signal but not the power source of the computer, "power-on detector" is amended as "detector" to avoid the Examiner's misunderstanding. And the technical features of the detector in claim 16 are amended as follows:

"a detector used to detect a computer host reset signal on the standard interface between said personal computer and the optical data storage drive device, signal said microprocessor to control said bus switch to release the standard interface when the computer host reset signal is not detected and signal said microprocessor to control said bus switch to resume said standard interface when the computer host reset signal is detected whether the personal computer is power-on or power-off. "

With the above amendment, the difference between the present invention and Jae-Sung is more distinct. Evidently different from the detection port 37 for checking the voltage of the multimedia device as disclosed in paragraph 0045 of Jae-Sung, the detector as recited in claim 16 of the present application serves to detect the computer host reset signal but not the voltage of the power source of the computer or the optical drive device.

Regarding the difference between the stand-alone operation of the present invention and that (without booting the computer) of Jae-Sung:

with reference to the description of paragraph 0043 of Jae-Sung, the multimedia device of Jae-Sung employs an adaptor as the power source of the multimedia device (from an external AC power source, 110V/220V is converted to 9V DC voltage) when the personal computer is not powered on. However, when the personal computer is not powered on, the connection of the disc player 2 and the audio signal reproduction circuitry 6 with CPU of the personal computer (as shown and described in Fig. 1 and the Abstract) is interrupted. Therefore, the remaining play function of Jae-Sung is the audio play as shown in Fig. 2. At this time, it is not possible to play video or MPEG format data by an individual. On the contrary, according to the present invention, whether the personal computer is power-on or power-off, the

optical data storage drive device has the ability to play and encode/decode the audio, video and radio data, for the present invention uses a power source independent of the personal computer and the video/audio encoder/decoder and microprocessor are operated independently of the CPU of the personal computer (referring to Fig. 1 and Claim 16 of the present application.)

Furthermore, as described in paragraph 0045 of Jae-Sung, the detection port 37 functions "to check voltage ...when the multimedia device is not in operation and make a power control terminal 39 active in accordance to the checked result." From the above description and the illustration of Fig. 3 of Jae-Sung, the activation signal output by the power control terminal 39 functions to activate the control circuit 38 as shown in Fig. 3, the activation signal being other than the signal on the bus and not controlled by the microcomputer as shown in Fig. 2. Therefore, the activation signal in paragraph 0045 of Jae-Sung is different from the computer host reset signal on the bus switch of the present invention.

Moreover, the function for detecting the power source has been excluded from the function of the detector in amended claim 16. Therefore, the subject matter and the function of each component in claim 16 can not be deduced from the disclosure in Fig. 3 and paragraph 0045 of Jae-Sung.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 16 herein has been sufficiently distinguished from the main reference to Jae-Sung, so that the rejection of the claims as being obvious over Jae-Sung in view of Beckert et al is not tenable.

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